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Encouragement from Set Apart Ministries

Messianic Community Concerns

October, 2006

Shalom,

We are back to a more normal schedule after a delightful and challenging Sukkoth season away from our regular routine. Hopefully, you, too, have had a set apart time to be in His Presence. Our local community has had an opportunity to face and overcome some hurdles, growing together in the process. It has been a joy to us to see a number of our members, especially the newer ones, begin to blossom and grow in strength in our Messiah among us. Of course, it continues to challenge us as leaders to grow in our roles as well.

There is no lack of interesting things to do and to study around here! We were absolutely delighted with the video [Jerusalem: Covenant City](#) which was produced by Hatikvah Productions. The first half gave a history of Jerusalem up until about 1945, with an emphasis on fulfillment of prophecy. The second half continued with a very solid look at future expectations, all Scripturally supported. Our community broke into song twice during this part: once with Barry and Batya Siegel's song *On Your Walls* and at the end with Paul Wilbur's *Shalom Jerusalem*. A wonderful follow up to our eschatology study earlier this year, it would seem we all have a better picture now of the central importance of this piece of real estate and what our YHWH's plans for it are all about. Check our website soon to order the DVD. Set Apart Ministries will receive a portion of the proceeds when it is ordered through our website. We intend to obtain one for our resource library, too.

Gini and Kip Detri of [Isaiah 40 Ministries](#) brought us an entire afternoon of information and opportunities for questions and answers about how to come along side our brother, Yehuda, both here in the states and for those in Israel. Gini has a wealth of information after her 14th trip to Isreal earlier this year and is well able to help us understand the subtle and not so subtle ways Christians have offended our Jewish brothers

But What About Grace?-- conclusion



AS ONE MOVES TOWARD TORAH OBEDIENCE ARE THERE PRECAUTIONS TO FOLLOW TO AVOID FALLING INTO A LEGALISTIC SNARE?

Most definitely there are snares to avoid. Again, Frank Houtz has been exploring these kinds of issues and has in his fourth article on the subject referred to the kinds of behaviors that could be considered legalistic and inappropriate for Torah pursuant communities.

As at any time during which one is in deep study and developing new understandings, there is a danger of becoming so focused on the academic or "head knowledge" aspects that the relationship aspect can be lost. While in graduate school, I could only manage a maximum of three client sessions in a week. Each session had to be transcribed word for word, double

rather than loving them. They will be bringing **Eliezer Braun, an Orthodox Jew from Israel, back here on December 3** to give us an update on his organizations efforts to re settle Jews in the land. We will probably spend some time with him as a community and then open the meeting up to those in the surrounding areas who would like to come. Here is a good opportunity to learn more about how to *nachamu ami*, comfort His people!

The time is drawing near for **Rebecca Park Totilo to come, November 10-12, 2006**. The public service announcements are out, the hotel rooms are set aside, and we have been praying for those our Father wants to be present. Her message on the Bride of Messiah is many faceted and so much a part of what we take seriously here at SAM. You can register online by [clicking here](#), or call the office for further information.

We will be meeting in the recording studio of friend, Rick Wolter, to produce our study on **Maturity in Prayer Life** on November 5. Please remember us in your prayers as we, together as a community, give voice to what we have been shown about emotional and spiritual maturity, *kavanah*, and how each stage of growth sounds in prayer. We will be addressing the entire spectrum from infant level on up through becoming a serious student of the Word, a servant, bond servant and finally as His Bride. We hope to have this CD available to you before the end of the year. Check the home page on our website for further information.

HalleluYah! Our [catalog](#) is finally up and online! Marilyn is diligently working now to fine tune a few things and to continue to enter new products as they become available. We hope to be a source of worship and study materials, tzittziot, banners, shofar bags and tallit bags and much more as we grow. A number of the members of our community contribute through the production of the hand crafted items as well as by assisting in the office handling and shipping. We hope to develop a source of income here in order to provide support for our community members in need and for ministry needs.

Our monthly **Teleconference for Women** is announced below and we are delighted to add a **Teleconference for Messianic Community Leaders: Plant & Grow a Strong Messianic Fellowship**. No matter how large or small your fellowship may be, there is inevitably some confusion about how to handle issues that arise: particularly those that involve relationships. Details below.

spaced and annotated with comments on who said what, why, when, therapeutic purpose and intent of any intervention and so forth. During that time, the attempt to develop such awareness of process, very nearly drove out my ability to establish rapport and relationship. Thankfully, after the intensity of that time, the recognition of issues began to occur without that much conscious effort. My ability to relate returned to it's former state when my new knowledge became part of me. (Now 20 years later, I rather enjoy having a student with me because it leads me to re-examine why I do what I do and remember that there IS a base of knowledge and perception built in me from my training.)

As a trained Bible study teacher, with two and a half years of intensive study in an overview course I developed enough comfort with my knowledge of Scripture to have some degree of confidence that I would spot something in error as I began my study of Hebrew roots. I can only imagine what this study is like if one does NOT have any confidence at all in their knowledge of Scripture; the fear of being misled must be overwhelming at times! It was daunting enough for me! Along with several others, in my study with my first Messianic Torah teacher, I did go through a period in which my relationship with Messiah and the joy that I had felt in His presence seemed to fade. I believe this had something to do with the intensity of learning and re-learning and re- assessing that was involved, although it was also related to some personal issues of the Torah teacher himself. (He became more and more hostile to anything in the church, teaching that no one had ANY true knowledge of God before coming into Torah, and eventually ended up denying Messiah and going back to the synagogue.) Many of us in that class continue to pray for this man and his family though we were indeed very blessed by much of what he was able to impart to us. As I came out from this teacher's sphere of influence, and began to develop comfort with all the new information, I began to find my ownership of this information, and wonder of

Today, we conclude our series on **But What About Grace?** with the final portion about precautions to observe as we move toward Torah obedience. We have heard from a number of people who experienced a loss of their joy in Messiah during the early portion of their Torah journey and want to assure people this is NOT the norm to remain at that point!

We had only one additional comment about definitions of **denominations** and what Messianic organizations do. If you have something to add, please let us know. This project will be on hold until further notice.

Marilyn and I suddenly realized that the **Coaching** information on our website had gotten buried when we redid our home page. You can now get to this information quite easily by clicking on [Coaching](#) in our purple navigation box. We do look forward to hearing from you!
(BLK)

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Keeping Your Joy Full!

The certainty that God is always near us, present in all parts of His world, closer to us than our thoughts, should maintain us in a state of high moral happiness most of the time. but not all the time. It would be less than honest to promise every believer continual jubilee and less than realistic to expect it.

From the book; *The Knowledge of the Holy*, by A. W. Tozer, copyright 1964, by Christian Publications, page 82, used with permission.

Can you tell the difference between your "state of high moral happiness most of the time" and those other times when your joy is less on the surface, but still just as real? If we think that we will feel happy always, we will miss the comfort of also recognizing that bad things happen but they do not have to define or defeat us. We are more than conquerors in our Messiah!

Teleconferences



[Get our your red markers! Find your yellow highlighter Unbury your](#)

wonders, the joy of relationship with Messiah again became evident, but with even greater depth of understanding than before! I have walked along with many people through this same process now, and can see it happen before my eyes. YES, grace abounds! All the more precious as we walk out the Torah pictures that were designed to be rehearsals for us to recognize His plan and His work within us, as well as His return. Just try to delevain your home completely! You will know immediately that it cannot be done perfectly! How grateful we are for the One who could and did pay the price for what I cannot do for myself. How grace abounds!

CONCLUSIONS

DO we need to fear the absence of grace in Messianic fellowships? Now as then, each person must be watchful and discerning about the heart of the people with whom they choose to fellowship. Messianic fellowship or not: there is no guarantee that every group will have the same focus, the same understanding, the same level of scholarship, maturity, sense of worship or prayer, or the same heart for our Messiah.

At Set Apart Ministries, we are committed to developing individual and corporate maturity in our Messiah. I have often pointed out that: Grace is for when we FALL short of His standards, not for when we AIM short of them. If it were not for abundant grace, during our time of exile, that is understood as the time we worshiped this Hebrew God of ours before comprehending His ways more fully, we would have no hope at all! Grace abounds for those who are truly attempting to walk in obedience out of love for our Elohim. Yet, we would never want to consider grace a license to avoid or minimize our attention to His teachings on righteousness.

It IS true however, that our YHWH Elohim, and our Messiah Yahshua have not and will not change! Prayerfully, and prudently observe and be patient in time of study and re-assessment. Be confident that He Who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it and go ahead! Study His Word in His Hebrew context. Watch for His heart in what you study and practice.

calendar!

- Sunday, October 29, 2006
9:00 AM CST

"For Women Only" teleconference

We have about one week's lead time this month, between this announcement and the date. Please let your friends know about this! Especially those who are without someone locally to talk over their Torah walk.

This teleconference is open to all women who are coming into a *Torah* observant lifestyle who may be single, divorced, widowed or even married but whose spouse isn't yet interested.

Our discussion will follow the format below: Introductions and Get Acquainted Time

Discussion Time

Topic for the Day: Coping with Holiday Challenges and Family Matters

Prayer Concerns and closing

To register for this month's teleconference, please contact us with your email address. We will send out a reminder several days prior to the conference, with the telephone number and PIN number to use to enter into this month's discussion!

Plant & Grow a Strong Messianic Fellowship Teleconference

Registration for this teleconference series opens this month. Here is an opportunity for those who provide leadership in a Messianic community, even if it's only two other people! Just as we have done at MIA conferences, we are now offering the same kind of open forum to discuss difficult relationships, conflict resolution, anger management, and so forth by teleconference.

In an effort to meet the needs of far flung leadership in a more timely fashion than we can do at conferences, we offer

He will not leave you orphaned!

Quick Links...

[Set Apart Ministries New Catalog-Click here and go to navigation box for catalog!](#)

[Dry Bones Restoration Company-Frank Houtz](#)

[Rebecca Park Totilo](#)

[Messianic Discipleship Resources from Natan Lawrence, Hoshana Rabbah](#)

[Sheep of Israel-David Gipson](#)

Join our mailing list!

monthly 90 minute teleconferences. We hope to begin these calls in November, as we gather each group of up to 25 people. There will be a \$5 suggested donation per session to help cover our costs and this will be payable through Paypal on our website.

If you'd like to participate, please contact us for registration information or watch for an email announcement soon. If you know someone you think would benefit from this opportunity, please ask them to give us a call or ask them to send their email address. We appreciate your help in getting the word out! It is really easy to do and amazing how comfortable you get with a "room" full of people by phone.

About Us

Barbara L. Klika, MSW, LCSW, Personal Life Coach is a licensed mental health professional and founder of Set Apart Ministries, Inc., in practice since 1983 with an abiding interest in working with attachment/bonding and maturity issues for individuals, couples, and groups. She has been a congregational leader for over 20 years in several areas, including Bible Study and vocal and handbell choir direction. She is also a certified Bethel Bible Study teacher who has



participated in serious study of the Word since 1993 through such organizations as Precepts Ministries and First Fruits of Zion. She has completed basic coaching training through MentorCoach, Inc. and will be continuing work toward an additional Masters degree in coaching. Barb has provided the clinical leadership in pursuing the Life Model group and individual teaching and processing emotional and maturity issues for the past 3 years. She offers her gifts of exhortation, discernment, intercession and prophecy to the Body of Messiah, both locally and in our extended community via telephone and the Internet.

Marilyn T. Guffey, lay counselor, Personal Life Coach. Marilyn had been a congregational leader in her home church for over 20 years, providing Bible study, worship opportunities and lay counseling for women in transition for most of that time. She has completed her basic coaching training through MentorCoach, Inc. Marilyn has been the coleader in the provision of group and individual teaching and processing emotional and maturity issues for the past 3 years. Marilyn is a serious student of the Word and has participated in and provided many Bible study opportunities, most recently with First Fruits of Zion and numerous additional Messianic Torah study materials. She thrives on offering her gifts of mercy, discernment, encouragement, intercession and helps and has a strong desire to support the Body of Messiah in growing in maturity and faith, both locally and in our extended community via telephone and the Internet.

Board Member (VP) and support person Janell Schroeder, BBA works professionally as a computer reports specialist for a very large transportation

company. She has been instrumental in the founding of Set Apart Ministries, functioning as a support person for people going through trauma recovery. She has attended numerous training experiences in this area and has participated in the Life Model program since its beginning. Janell is a certified Bethel Bible study teacher as well as a certified Precepts Bible Study teacher. She has also been in leadership in her previous congregation as a member of church council and in Adult and Child Education She is currently working on her Bachelors Degree in Messianic Studies and plans to complete a Masters Degree through the Messianic Bible Institute Yeshiva. She brings her spiritual gifts of teaching and helps to our home Set Apart Ministries Community.

Board Member, Secretary Treasurer: Robert Klika, BS Bob currently works professionally as a supervisor in the area of milk sanitation for the Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture. Bob has been a leader in previous congregations through service on church council as well as in men's ministries. He provides leadership in several areas of our home community, particularly in the areas of practical arrangements for gatherings, youth ministry and fun nights, and corporate prayer as well as keeping accounts and necessary organizational paper work. He completed his high school education in a Roman Catholic Seminary and has participated in Bible study since then through several studies, including the Bethel Bible Study series and Messianic Torah for the past 4 years through First Fruits of Zion and many additional supplemental materials.

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